

Instructions for the Use of the Diastereotest  
for Determination of the Presence or Absence of Stereopsis

A. Let the subject examine the face of the diastereotest very briefly at close range so that he will understand that one of the three discs protrudes or stands out.

B. While positioned directly in front of the subject, aim the diastereotest "between his eyes," i.e., essentially toward the bridge of the subject's nose. The distance from the face of the diastereotest to the subject's eyes or spectacle plane should be  $5.0 \pm 0.5$  ft. (or  $1.50 \pm 0.15$  meters).

C. Hold a large opaque card, an 8" x 10" card will do, in front of the diastereotest and rotate the diastereotest on its axis while the face of the diastereotest is covered by the card so that the subject cannot know the position of the protruding disc.

D. Instruct the subject to watch carefully, then suddenly draw the card away, exposing the diastereotest face to the subject for about one or two seconds (about the length of time it takes to say "diastereotest"), and then suddenly return it to cover the diastereotest face. Then ask the subject, "which one of the three spots seemed to be nearest you?" (The correct answer should be indicated to you by the letter on the outer top side of the diastereotest shield surrounding the test face: B = bottom; T = top; R = right; L = left, and, of course, the in-between values for bottom-right, top-right, etc.) Do not inform the subject as to whether or not he gave the correct answer, as this may enable him to detect vicarious clues.

E. Repeat steps C and D five more times, merely noting how many of the six times the subject fails to give the correct answer. If he gives the correct answer every time, he has stereopsis. If he misses three or more of the six, he does not demonstrate stereopsis. If he misses one or two out of the six, the series of six should be repeated at least once but not more than twice. If he gets a perfect score in one of the three series of six exposures, you can safely assume that he demonstrated stereopsis. If none of three series of six exposures produces a perfect score, he is not using stereopsis.

If at any time you are suspicious that the subject is utilizing some vicarious clue to obtain correct answers, merely have him cover one eye while you repeat the test. He should now fail the test, i.e., miss one or more out of six trials, unless he is utilizing an unintended clue. It is possible that the protruding disc has been shifted so that it can be identified as the one at the most acute apex of an isosceles triangle, or it may have been damaged to give it a detectably different surface appearance than the other two. Also the examiner may unwittingly provide extraneous clues by his manner of questioning his manner of holding the diastereotest, etc.

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